

# DIPLOMACY REVIEW

Issue #2, August 1972

International Diplomacy Association

Membership over 105

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## THE EDITOR'S REPORT ON THE DIPLOMACY REVIEW

This being the last page typed for this issue's Diplomacy Review, I want to take time out to discuss the future plans being made for this, the IDA's official magazine.

Financially, the Diplomacy Review is an expensive item of the IDA's budget. At the recent meetings in Chicago, the IDA Council voted a \$30 increase in funds for the DR. Remember, however, this money is going to be spent this year. The costs of publishing Diplomacy Review will be something in the neighborhood of \$1 per person per year of 6 issues coming out every two months. This was one of the reasons why the membership dues were raised to two dollars per year. One-half of the IDA budget will go into publishing the Diplomacy Review.

In an effort to cut costs, this Editor is making public proposals to the other Council members on two important items: First, that the DR be mailed third class whenever an issue exceeds one ounce (such as this issue), and secondly, that overseas members pay the difference in mailing costs (.13¢ for 1 ounce). This issue of Diplomacy Review is being mailed third class to CANADA and USA, and by surface mail to overseas members.

I make the additional proposal that if any of the overseas members want their issue air-mailed, that they should pay the increase.

Please let me know if your Diplomacy Review has arrived very late, or if it has received rough handling. Third class is not supposed to equal first class mail.

Financial matters now taken care of, I want to discuss the need for a Diplomacy Review STAFF. Yes, I mean a staff. As the membership increases, the time to run off and assemble the issues will also increase. A staff will help cut my time in publishing the DR. What kind of a staff do I need? Mostly, the staff will collect material for publication in the DR. Perhaps some may even be able to type up their own articles on stencils. Most important, however, is the need for regular contributors in various areas of news, articles, information, etc.

For example, I want regular contributors to write a series of articles on openings, contributors who will write articles on tactics, techniques, etc., writers who will think up tactical puzzles for the members to solve (Edi--will you volunteer?), someone to look up a good article written in the past and to send the article to me to type, or retype it himself with additional comments. Of course, I want all officers and Committee Chairmen to submit on a regular basis, reports on their areas of interests. Also, I would like someone to take over a question and answer column which members can avail themselves of its advantages. Many more people will be needed for articles of other types not mentioned here. What I would like you potential staff members to do is to write me of what you would like to do as a regular contributor or staff member, and I'll see what you can do for the IDA and its Diplomacy Review.

The International Diplomacy Association is an organization of Diplomacy players who cares about what is being done in the dippy community. The Diplomacy Review is your magazine paid and financed with your money--why don't you contribute your ideas, help and time? Write to: John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.

Thank you.

## A NEW DIPLOMACY COMMUNITY: A WHITE PAPER

It is a great pleasure to be allowed to appear in this distinguished magazine. I know how important this forum is to the formulation of public views on important Diplomacy matters. For that reason I am very happy to appear in Diplomacy Review to discuss the interorganizational relations of the Diplomacy community generally and the "foreign policy" of the International Diplomacy Association in particular. I believe these are subjects of interest to all thoughtful Diplomacy players.

Let me begin with a conclusion. As a result of initiatives taken by Council members of the IDA at the Chicago DIPCON in inter-organizational affairs, the prestige of the IDA throughout the Diplomacy community has never been greater. Operating on the basic principle that "there is no greater gift that one age could make to the ages that follow than to forge the key to a lasting peace," the Council has consistently directed every step to that end. As a result the Diplomacy community today is a much less hostile place than it was a year ago, and, hopefully, the first foundations for a genuinely stable and lasting peace in the community have been laid.

The IDA Council has resisted the temptation to assume an organizational mortgage--to buy temporary peace at the cost of future instability. Real peace cannot be bought with the future; it must be built for the future. That takes patience and careful planning. It takes a willingness to break new ground in improving relationships with former adversaries. It takes strength and a continuing fidelity to solemn obligations and to principles. That is the path the IDA Council has chosen. That is why our standing is at an all time high--both with our friends and with our adversaries. That is why--in the vernacular of the day--"The Diplomacy community is not so up tight," as it was a year ago.

At Chicago, in addition to a visit with John Beshara, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Diplomacy Association, by several Council members, talks were held with Allan Calhamer, the designer of the game; John Moot, of Games Research; and a host of Diplomacy publishers and players.

With most of these people our relations have been friendly and close. With some, however, they have been, at best, "correct" and limited. Hopefully, these discussions explained our hopes and our efforts for a more peaceful community, and sought their

views on such a community could best be achieved. In this article I would like to discuss with you some of the things I discussed with them.

What kind of a Diplomacy community do we seek? First of all, it should be a community in which players, gamemasters and publishers --whether friends or enemies, partners or competitors--talk to each other. During the formulation of IDA the prevailing belief was that, because we had important differences with our adversaries, we could not talk. The Council has proceeded from the opposite belief --that because we have important differences we must talk. Of course, the Council knew that dialogue alone would not bridge the differences; but it also knew that without dialogue they might never be bridged.

The policy of IDA therefore is based on the conviction that communication between strangers, and negotiations between adversaries, serves the cause of a more tranquil community. That is why the meetings at Chicago, both within the IDA membership and leadership, and with non-members, were so important; they established an essential dialogue between us. We must now move from dialogue to concrete negotiations, and then to a growing cooperation.

During my Chicago discussions, I found a general appreciation of this. And I made clear our belief that what is working for us can work for others. Nothing can be more productive than a willingness in all areas of Diplomacy to move away from the rigidities of the past year or so.

The second characteristic of the peaceful community in Diplomacy we seek is closely related to the first. As that community must be marked by dialogue and negotiation, so too must it be open to the free flow of players, magazines, and ideas. We are convinced that the cause of peace is advanced by contact among players, magazines and organizations and by a free exchange of ideas at all levels. Thus, in any area such contact has been limited, we are seeking to enlarge it.

The third characteristic, of the peaceful Diplomacy community, we seek is that there must be universal respect for the right of every player, magazine and organization to independence, sovereignty, and to its own internal development free of outside interference. In pressing for the removal of barriers to freer contact, we have no interest in meddling in anybody's internal affairs. On the contrary, our policy springs from a different and positive conviction--that more open relations will release tensions, and will promote the normal human communication and that encourages people and organizations to

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live, and let live, in peace and friendship.

We in the IDA feel strongly, most strongly, about the right of other organizations to develop according to their own desires because we fought a hard battle to win those rights for ourselves. We respect them for others. Indeed, we regard those rights as fundamental to peaceful relations among organizations. They must apply all the time, not just some of the time. And they must apply in all cases, not just some cases. This principle is basic to our relations with other groups. We are ready for an improvement or expansion of relations at whatever pace and in whatever manner they themselves are prepared to follow. In time we hope to move from "coexistence" toward a more active and cooperative relationship. Building on the recognition of each organization's right to run its own affairs, we are working for a community in which former adversaries can, not only coexist in peace, but also cooperate in peace.

The fourth major characteristic of the peaceful Diplomacy community we seek is a willingness among its members, particularly publishers, to reduce their reliance on negative propaganda as a viable instrument of making personal and magazine policy. Even today a growing willingness to limit the use of such propaganda is evident. We therefore hope and expect that the principles of peaceful relations to which we and the Diplomacy Association committed ourselves in Chicago will be more than idle social chatter. For our part we will certainly do our best to translate them into practical realities. As we move toward new and more constructive relationships with former adversaries, it is all the more important that we preserve a matrix of stability. How can we do so?

First, by ensuring that the search for new relationships will not be at the expense of our principles. Second, by recognizing that these relationships will improve our own creditability only if, in pursuing them, we maintain those principles. Third, by affirming by word and deed that a peaceful community will not be sought--as it could not be achieved--through IDA abandonment of our obligations and interests. This, then is the kind of peaceful Diplomacy community which we would like to see and toward which IDA Council policies are directed:

1. A community in which dialogue and negotiations have replaced monologue and conflicts;
2. A community in which people can move freely and easily across organizational borders;
3. A community in which the recognition

of the sovereignty and independence of all players, magazines, and organizations is the first principle of diplomacy;

4. A community in which negative propaganda is relied on less and less as an instrument of personal and magazine policy.

A year ago would anyone have thought such a community possible in our time? Even today no one would pretend that it will be achieved soon or that the problems and difficulties are not formidable. But for the first time since Veritas Vincit such a community is possible. We cannot help to turn that possibility into a reality if we withdraw to our own magazines and organizations. To help build an enduring peace we need to remain responsibly engaged in Diplomacy community affairs. The International Diplomacy Association must and will remain so engaged.

--Lawrence Wm. Peery  
President, IDA

#### IDA MEMBER MAGAZINES

The following represents only a partial list of all IDA member-publishers' magazines. We hope to be able to cover the rest in the next issue of DR. We have edited the information given to us by these member-publishers and used some symbols to simplify our task. Undoubtedly, this is the hardest typing task within the whole DR issue. The symbols: NO stands for no openings, O followed by R and/or V means openings of either regular or variant types. GF stands for game fee. SB means stand-by and SBF is stand-by fee. Subscription rates are divided by a slash with the first part, the dollar figure being the cost, and the following figure the number of issues. The rest are self-explanatory. A.D.A.G. (A Droite A Gauche), S.W.C.D.B. (Sweetwater Canyon Daily Bugle), P.S.G. (Puget Sound Gazette), BNW (Brave New World) the last is a variant zine. Harold Naus. 1011 Barrett Ave., Chula Vista, CA 92011. Ditto. Monthly. Avg. 6 pgs. OR. 1 game in each of 1st 3 listed, GF/\$3. Sub \$1/yr. No SBF given. Features: good old regular knife twisting Diplomacy. ARMADILLO. House of Coop. 3073 S. Buchanan St., #B-2, Arlington, VA 22206. Xerox. Every 3 wks. Avg. 7 pgs. OR. GF/\$4, \$1 discount to IDA members. Sub \$1/6. No SBF given. Features: Coop and his dog Whimpy, reviews, politics, humor, Diplomacy stuff, etc. BUSHWACKER. Fred C. Davis, Jr. 5307 Carriage Ct., Baltimore, MD 21229. Mimeo. Monthly. Avg. 6 pgs. NO. Sub \$2/18, eff. (cont. next page)

Nov. 9th--\$2.50/18. SBF/\$3. SB positions in variant games: Atlantica and Abstraction. Features: no set features, may have electronic reproductions of old Bushwacker comic strips.

COSTAGUANA, SAGUENAY, STAB. Grendel Press. Box 8342, San Diego, CA 92102. Ditto. Every 3 wks. Avg. # pgs: COST/14-18, SAG/16, STAB/4. NO. SB positions in STAB. SBF/sub to STAB. Subs: COST/\$1/7 or \$2/15, SAG/\$1/10 and STAB/\$1/20. Features: COST/lettercol, classical music articles, will print anything; SAG/Bourse for game 1972AU, articles on various subjects, humor; STAB/5 orphan games and their press, nothing else.

DIPLOPHOBIA. Donald L. Miller. 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, MD 20906. Mimeo. Every 3 wks. Avg. 10 pgs. NO. .20¢ ea. or Sub \$1/6.

SBF/sub. Features: mostly games and their press, letters to the Editor and from the Editor, news in general, etc.

EL DORADO. Dick Vedder. 11040 Adorno Place, San Diego, CA 92128. Ditto. Every 3 wks. Avg. 10 pgs. NO. .25¢ ea. or Sub \$1/4. No SBF, SB positions announced in zine. Features: ratings for variants, plus game summaries, Miller numbers, etc.

HOOSIER ARCHIVES. Walter Buchanan. R.R.#3, Lebanon, IN 46052. Ditto. Weekly. Avg. 4 pgs. plus cover. NO. Sub \$2/15 or \$1/7.

Features: The Multiple Winners Invitational Game (The Average Aces Game) which includes 7 top players with a total combined history of 35 postal wins, articles on good play by well-known players and publishers, lists of other zine openings, news, etc.

IMPASSABLE. John Boyer. 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. Mimeo. Every 3 wks. Avg. 12 pgs. OR, V. One game open for only experienced players, GF/\$5; one variant game: Scotice Scripti III, GF/\$5. Sub \$1/6 or .20¢ each. Stand-by positions limited, SBF/sub to Impassable. Features: Articles on good play, puzzles, letters, humor, games and press releases, dippy news, famous quotes, etc.

LIASONS DANGEREUSES, NEOPHYTE, et al. Lenard Lakofka. 4970 N. Marine Dr., Apt. 525, Chicago, IL 60640. Mimeo. Every 3 wks. Avg. 10 pgs. OR. LD: Publisher's Game, GF/\$5 (1 pos. only); LD17, for IDA members only, GF/\$2.50, 5 pos.; NEOPHYTE 11(1yr. or less postal play or 5 or fewer current games), GF/\$4, 4 positions; LD18, for IDA Council and Mid-West members, GF/\$1, 5 pos.; NEOS 12, 13, etc. will open thereafter; Neophyte Grand Tournament, GF/\$7 for 4 simultaneous games, 3 pos., this one has prizes. Sub \$2/15. SB positions available, SBF/.50¢ over sub. Features: general news, reviews and recommendations of other zines, articles, analysis of

Publisher's Game, etc.

MARCUS. Mark Weidmark. 528 Park Crescent, Pickering, Ontario, CANADA. Ditto. Every 3 wks. Avg. 11 pgs. NO. Sub \$1.50/10. SBF/sub. Features: games including Marcus Youngstown Variant, articles, editorials, comics, contests, etc.

THE ARENA. Edi Birsan. 48-20 39th St., Long Island City, NY 11104. Ditto. Every 2 wks. Avg. 9 pgs., 20 pg. issues 2-3 times a year. OR and openings in Origins. GF/\$5.50, .50¢ discount for IDA members. Sub \$1/7.

SBF/sub to Arena. Features: articles on Diplomacy and Origins (has games of Origins at GF/\$3 and .50¢ discount for IDA members), letter column, tactical quiz, report on Diplomacy and Origins news.

THE GAMESLETTER. Same as Diplophobia.

Every 2-4 wks. Avg. 10 pgs. No games, a genzine. .20¢ ea. or Sub \$1.10/6 or \$2/12. Features: news/reviews magazines covering entire gaming field; includes listing of Diplomacy mags rec'd during preceding month, info on openings therein, breakdown of contents of each zine, etc.

THE GAMESMAN. Same as Diplophobia. Mimeo/Offset. Irregular schedule. Avg. 40-50 pgs.

No games. .60¢ ea. or Sub \$2/4. Features: articles on various aspects of intellectual board games of skill from all ages and lands; occasionally includes articles on Diplomacy.

THERMOPOLAE. Payton D. Turpin. U.C.S.D., Box 109, Blake Hall, La Jolla, CA 92037. Ditto. Every 3 wks. Avg. 12 pgs. OV. Imperialism IX, 1 pos., GF/\$5, and Alcibiades (1 pos.), GF/\$5. Sub \$1/8. SBF/sub.

Features: comics and artwork, player press, articles on game improvements, history of countries and of Peloponnesian War, reviews on Sci Fi books, Dippy zines, etc.

un-named. Same as Marcus. Monthly. OV. Legion, GF/\$4, \$1 discount for IDA members. No set subscription rate, yet. SBF/sub, sub unknown. Features: Legion and 10-man Youngstown variant, occasional articles on variants.

VINLAND. Same as Marcus. Avg. 6 pgs. OR. Openings only for Canadians, GF/\$2. Sub \$1.50/10, SBF/sub. Features: games, Canadian history, Can-US relations, others as in Marcus.

XENOGOGIC, P. XERGOGIC, et al. Larry Peery. 3872 Jewell, H-107, San Diego, CA 92109. Ditto. Every 3 wks. Avg. 12 pgs. Limited # openings (novices only), GF/\$7. Sub \$5/ all issues for any single game, SBF/\$5. Features: regular news, book reviews, articles, etc.

" ". James Massar. 127 H. Emmons St., Dannemora, NY 12929. Ditto. Every 3 wks.

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Avg. 7-8 pgs. OV,R. Youngstown variant, Origins, and Diplomacy; other variants upon request, GF/\$1, plus \$1 sub and postage. Sub \$1/yr. plus postage. SEF/sub. Features: Political debate, quotes, humor, and some dippy articles.

Whew! That's the end of this list. Will the other publishers please take heed to that letter the Editor mailed to all of you and reply? Thank you.

#### AN IDA ELECTION, NEWS AND BRIEF NOTES

Election: Conrad von Metzke, a declared candidate for Membership Secretary, has withdrawn his candidacy. Therefore, Stephen Bell is appointed by the President to be the Membership Secretary until the elections to be held in accordance with the final IDA Constitution's provisions. Election for Canadian Regional Secretary will be between Robert Bawtinheimer and Mark Weidmark. These candidates should submit their campaign statements immediately to the Editor who will circulate them among all Canadian members along with a ballot. Election for CRS will be monitored (counted and verified) by both the Editor and Ombudsman. The election results will then be reported in the next issue of Diplomacy Review.

Stamps: IDA members, especially publishers, are urged to save commemorative stamps which can be sold to benefit the organization. So far, \$2.75 has been realized on this very worthwhile project. In charge of this stamp project for the IDA is Robert Lamb, P.O. Box 9893, Rochester, NY 14623. All stamps (do not send the common stamps such as the 8¢, 3¢, 11¢, etc.) should be left on a corner of the envelope and sent to Robert Lamb (his correct and new address is above).

DIPLOCON V (also incorrectly known as DIPCON V)--IDA, by Lenard Lakofka, IDA CRS

The rote accomplishments of the Council in "bill" and resolution form shall appear elsewhere within, so I need not review them.

The subject of membership for non-Diplomacy players was only glanced over--and that unfortunately. FIF membership was also glanced over. Nozik, e.g. might have a large potential membership in his area that could be excluded.

The vast majority of the persons in my region did not send back their information sheets. Yet from experience in IFW that is logical. Most people want to use an organization as opposed to work for one. 100% participation might obviate the need

for a Council.

Next year at DiploCon VI, the 49-man tournament will start at 10 am instead of 9 am and control of the players in the games better handled. A list of those pre-registered will also appear. Does the Mid-West region want a monthly live meeting? If yes, I'll arrange it! ((Perhaps all regional secretaries should consider having regional meetings.--Ed.))

#### CHICAGO: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DipCon V, and with it the first face-to-face meeting of the membership of the IDA, and the first meetings of the IDA Council, is now history. It is probably too soon to properly evaluate the affect that these meetings will have on Diplomacy, but several things can be ascertained now.

First, Lenard Lakofka and Larry Blandin are to be commended for a very fine job. On behalf of the organization and the Council, I wish to extend to them our thanx and appreciation for their many efforts on our behalf. We are, I am sure, all looking forward with anticipation to next year.

Second, the meetings of the Council were a most remarkable thing. Not merely for the plethora of things which were proposed, discussed, and either adopted or rejected, but for the mere fact that they did occur and that they were so successful. Nine people from all over the nation, representing different ages, backgrounds, interests, motivations, etc. gathered together for the first time and got down to work at once, and proceeded to carry out their responsibilities in a most serious and businesslike fashion. This, to me, was remarkable. Who would ever have thought that a face-to-face meeting of people like Rod Walker, Lenard Lakofka, Edi Birsan, Walt Buchanan, and myself would have accomplished anything, let alone done it in a spirit of cooperation and goodwill? Who would have thought that unknowns, as John Boyer and Stephen Bell were, would come forward and take positions cocqual with the older, more experienced players/publishers? Who would have thought that Elliot Lipson would lay a bomb before the Council and then proceed to defuse it? Who would have thought that under all that bushy hair, Steve Nozik had a functioning brain which really worked? Seriously, the manner in which the Council functioned was amazing to me. All are to be commended for this precedent making session.

Third, what did the Council actually accomplished? A number of things which  
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you will be hearing about in detail from other Council members: In summary, the Council: voted to raise dues to \$2.00 per year, effective next year, and raised the contribution level to \$10.00 per member per year; approved a \$30 increase in the Diplomacy Review budget; awarded honorary memberships to Allan Calhamer and John Moot; heard a preliminary report on the new Constitution from Edi Birsan and Larry Peery; assumed responsibility for the Johnny Awards beginning next year; agreed to appoint Michel Feron as overseas regional secretary subject to mutual agreement on several matters.

Fourth, more important, perhaps, were the many discussions on IDA goals, projects, membership requirements, organization structure, relations with other groups, etc. which went on. Everyone was heard and although not everyone agreed on all matters, a general consensus of opinion on many important subjects was reached. Most important, the members of the Council had an opportunity to meet together and work together in a face-to-face situation. In my opinion, the meetings were of a very high caliber and that much of the substantive accomplishments resulted from them. Commendations are in order for all who participated. The tradition of attendance, positive action, and constructive attitude set at these meetings sets a high standard for future councils. The meetings of the Council and the general membership at Chicago mark the real beginning of the IDA as an on-going group.

#### CONDENSED MINUTES OF CHICAGO

by Membership Secretary Stephen Bell

The DiploCon in Chicago last month provided the first opportunity for members of the IDA to translate ideas into action, and this opportunity was not wasted. All told, there were three separate meetings of the IDA Council and, of course, the immensely successful General Meeting.

At these pow wows, many topics were discussed and several decisions were reached. Your Acting Membership Secretary ((recently given permanent appointment until the new elections.--Ed.)) entered all of these proceedings into his minutes, which he has submitted to the Vice President/Treasurer for entry into the permanent IDA records. IDA members are welcomed to request copies of these complete minutes from Walt Buchanan. However, it should be noted that they are rather lengthy, and Mr. Buchanan will need to charge for the cost of photocopying them.

Thus, in order that the free flow of

information continues, the complete minutes have been condensed and are presented below. All of the essential information is included; omitted are the lengthy, rambling debates. All IDA members will obtain an accurate view of the IDA activity at the DiploCon by reading these condensed minutes, and are therefore strongly encouraged to do so.

---Stephen Bell

#### The Condensed Minutes

The first face-to-face meeting of the IDA Council was held on Friday night, July 21, at the Sherman House, Chicago. Important results of this conclave were as follows: As there were no official candidates for the newly created office of Overseas Regional Secretary, Michel Feron was appointed by the Council to fill that post.

John Boyer needed more money to publish Diplomacy Review; the Council heard his case and then approved his request for an additional \$30.

The second face-to-face meeting of the IDA Council was held on Saturday evening, July 22, at a cafeteria in downtown Chicago. Important results of this orgy were as follows: Larry Peery and Edi Birsan each had previously written a different draft of a proposed Constitution for the IDA, but they had not earlier in the day to compromise and combine their contradictory drafts into one document. One of the features upon which they could reach no agreement was the question of whether non-Council members should receive the Council's business publications. After a brief discussion, the Council decided that they could, but only if they specifically requested them.

Another question dealt with the frequency of the General Meeting. The Council decided that the General Meeting would be held at the call of the President.

The General Meeting was held on Saturday night, July 22, at the Sherman House, Chicago.

Dale Price has donated to the IDA a free checking account from his bank, along with some 400 checks; Walt Buchanan reported this at the meeting, and expressed the thanks of the entire membership.

Larry Peery also announced a donation to the IDA, this one of two copies of Diplomacy from Mr. John Moot and Games Research Inc.

An overview of the draft Constitution was presented by Edi Birsan. The complete draft will be published later, but Edi covered most of its key features.

One item in the draft provoked some debate; it called for age requirements for all officers. Mark Weidmark, Steve Bell,

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and Rod Walker argued against age limits, and won their case. Birsan said that the draft would be changed so that there are no age limits, except for President and Vice President/Treasurer (and then only because of the legal situation).

Elliot Lipson then spoke: "Resolved: that the IDA, in the interest of promoting postal Diplomacy, requests all member publishers to refrain from publishing criticism of TDA and its officers, or its publications." Not surprisingly, this resolution prompted some discussion; in fact, every single person in attendance expressed his opinion on the subject at least once. In the end, Lipson withdrew his resolution.

Peery spoke up: "I move to confer upon Allan Calhamer honorary membership in the IDA." The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

A discussion about the site of next year's DiploCon followed a brief recess. Lenard Lakofka volunteered to host it once again.

A discussion of dues, the membership year, and donations followed. Buchanan spoke: "I move to raise dues to \$2 annually, and to conclude the membership year on December 31." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Birsan: "I move to raise the limit for donations to \$10." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Buchanan and Lakofka reported rival offers for publication of the players handbook. A committee of Buchanan, Lakofka, Birsan, Keller, Nozik, Thomas, Walker, and Peery was appointed to examine the two offers.

Walker: "I move to confer upon John R. Moot honorary membership in the IDA." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously, with one abstention.

The meeting then adjourned.

The final, face-to-face convention meeting of the IDA Council was held on Sunday afternoon, July 23, in the Jade Room of the Sherman House, Chicago.

Many things were suggested for IDA's future. Approved were Bell's proposals regarding procedures for processing new members, Bell's proposals regarding the postal Diplomacy directory, Birsan's suggestion that the Johnny Awards go from a nominating stage in which publishers make the choices to the players for selection of final winners, and Buchanan's suggestion that a committee be formed to examine the feasibility of an IDA-sponsored ratings system. Beyerlein was appointed as chairman of the new committee.

--Stephen Bell, MS IDA

## CUSTOM

by Ombudsman Edi Birsan

As an irregular column, by the Ombudsman, CUSTOM is an open report to all members on the actions of that office in approaching various disputes that have been brought to its attention. Through this column, it is hoped to develop some verbalization of the customs of postal Diplomacy and that area which might be labeled the Rights and Responsibilities of participants. Presently there are reports on two cases that came before the office and afforded the Ombudsman to comment on several important areas of the hobby as well as to attempt to end the dispute: CASE #1

A GM had brought forth objections against a player on two accounts and asked the Ombudsman to intervene. The first problem was that the GM had required through his house rules that a player send in his moves on a separate Bxll sheet for each game that he was in to help facilitate record keeping. The player insisted on sending in moves by post card. The second problem was that the GM had requested conditional moves from players pending various outcomes on a short season. The player also refused. The GM agreed to abide by my arbitration.

It appeared as a clear case of player rights and gamesmaster rights and was so decided upon. In the first case, it was totally within the gamesmaster's sphere to demand that orders be sent in on the certain size paper, especially so considering the large circulation of this particular case and so it was ruled that players must send in orders on the required paper size or be subject to the sanctions of the GM. In the second matter there was a slight complication in that the GM's houserules had also had a provision for the forcing of conditional moves. It is the belief of this office that every player has the right to make moves after seeing the results of the previous season regardless of whether it is a build, move or retreat season. This right lies totally within the sphere of the players and a gamesmaster over steps his responsibility to a speedy game by making conditional moves a required action. This is not to say that such orders can not be requested, merely that they can not be forced upon any player who exercises his right to see the moves of the prior season by notifying the GM of his demand to see the prior season's results before sending in orders.

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## CASE #2

A player requested intervention in a removal of himself by a GM. The matter being that after receiving an issue of the zine involved the player did not receive anything from the GM for some 3 months only to discover that there had been 3 issues of the magazine published and his position destroyed by having no orders for his units during that period. Only the player was a member of the IDA. The player also asked that some kind of compensation be given him by the GM for the foul up.

Missed orders are a common happening in postal Diplomacy. The greatest number of causes has always been player forgetfulness and loss of interest. One of the least causes is gamesmaster error in mailing and post office foul ups. As it turned out in this case it was the GM's error and he decided to replay one of the seasons as compensation. This decision was the GM's made independently and prior to any communication from this office. Yet, it allowed me to detail the responsibility of a player to himself and the other players in the zine he shares. The resulting letter detailed the reactions by players that would have avoided such a case from arising and would have served the general Diplomacy population as well. Having noted when the deadline was due and when five days had passed and there had been no zine forthcoming, the player should immediately send out a post card to the GM informing that he had not received the issue and would like to know what was going on. If within another week there was still no word from the GM, a second air-mail post card should be due as well as possible notes or cards to other players to discover if the zine was out. (This can also be done to an archivist in case players are unco-operative). As the new deadline approaches and there is still no word from the GM on the last issue it is best to call collect to obtain the information needed. The series of actions would prevent you from missing moves, maintain pressure on GM's to meet their deadlines and to take better care of their mailing lists, thus serving both yourself and the general Diplomacy public at the same time. The ruling was therefore to back up the GM in any action he took to respond to the player who had not taken the most basic steps to protect himself.

Comments should be sent to the Ombudsman: Edi Birsan, 48-20 39th St., Long Island City, NY 11104.

Justice like lightning, ever should appear  
To few men's ruin, but to all men's fear.

--Svetnam

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial position of IDA is steadily improving due to increasing membership and contributions by some of the members. (At the DIPCON the Council decided that each member could contribute up to \$10.00 per year to the organization. This limit was set so no one member could financially dominate the group.) As of 2 August we stand financially as follows:

Income

Dues	\$105.00
Contributions:	
Birsan	5.00
Anonymous	10.00
Buchanan	10.00
	<u>\$130.00</u>

Expenses

Elections	\$35.00
Conciliatory Notes Fund	5.00
Diplomacy Review Fund	25.00
	<u>\$65.00</u>

Balance: \$65.00

It should be noted that this balance is deposited in our account at the Midwest Bank & Trust Co., Cleveland, OH. The Co-chairman of our Finance Committee was most kind in arranging this checking account free of charge and we are well supplied with cheques, etc. Cheques can now be made out directly to "International Diplomacy Association".

Assigned jobs in the Finance Committee now stand as follows: Co-chairman: Dale Price and myself; Vice-chairman: Bill Jarvis; Chief of Commemorative Stamp Money-making Project: Bob Lamb. And of course anyone else with an idea for a money-making project is hereby invited to join the Finance Committee. I feel we are off to a good start. ---Walter Buchanan, VP/T IDA

## CUT THROAT DIPLOMACY

by Edi Birsan

One of the major objections raised to Diplomacy by novice players and non-playing company or hostess's is that the game takes too long. At the recent DipCon the initial game I was in lasted some 7 hours (8 game years), and I have been at other games that have lasted 11 playing hours! This is due to the victory criterion being 18 centers (continued next page)



and the turn-around in game caused by an almost stage development from opening game to middle game to end game periods, with shifts in alliances during each stage.

The most common way to get around the time factor is to set a time limit and end the game at that time no matter what. ((The most favored technique of the non-playing hostess)) Following this has been the reduction of victory requirements from 18 centers to 12 or 15 depending on the players. The first case destroys the excitement for the survivors in the end game period and may leave a distorted picture of the winner as the middle game period generally sees one player rising to a zenith and then a reaction that may topple him instead of him going on for the victory. The second method also has the same failing as it forces players to try to gain a good middle game position by centers instead of the usual position being the criterion. To my taste, both methods fail.

What is needed is not a perversion of the game, but a quick variant of it. A variant mind you, that has great amounts of tensions and corresponding excitement. To do this I propose "Cut Throat Diplomacy."

The basic rules are the same as Diplomacy with the change in victory criterion to: you need 18 game points to win the game; each neutral supply center is worth 1 game point, each non-capital home supply center is worth 2 game points, each capital is worth 3 game points; thus, every major power would have to start at 7 game points with Russia having 9 game points; the first player to reach 18 is the winner. In case of simultaneous winners, the game is extended out for 1 game year with only those powers in a tie moving all others being in civil disorder. If no player pulls ahead then the game is a draw for those still tied.

The reaction of these changes would be to force players to go for each other in a very big way. Stabs would be the rule and the tension along such areas as Venice-Trieste, Burgundy-Munich, Norway-St. Pete would be increased as to bring around a really Cut Throat game. There is no attempt to ape regular Diplomacy so there is no perversion of the stage developments of the game. Should the game still be too long then increase all the home centers to 3 each or raise the capital to 5 points. It would be also possible to reduce the total points needed to win from 18 to 15. Tell me what you think: Edi Birsan, 48-20 39th St., LIC, NY 11104.

Ask not what the IDA can do for you, but what you can do for the IDA.

A DR REPRINT:

FOLLOW THE ACTION!

(The McCallum System of Notation)

by Walt Buchanan and taken from his Hoosier Archives, #54, January 15, 1972.

Since the Grudge Game is a demonstration game ((this game has since been completed in which Edi Birsan was the eventual winner.-- Editor)), hopefully many of you out there will learn something from it. That is why a detailed analysis of the moves in prior seasons will appear periodically. To enable you to learn more easily from the moves themselves and from this analysis, I would like to suggest to you the use of a recording system that was first proposed to me by John McCallum.

First of all, write Games Research, Inc., 48 Wareham Street, Boston, MA 02118 and send them \$1.00 for 25 Diplomacy Conference Maps. This should be plenty to use for the system described below. Also, you will need seven crayons in the following colors: red, (Austria), purple (England), blue (France), black (Germany), green (Italy), brown (Russia), and yellow (Turkey).

Now, to use the McCallum system, you take a separate map after each of the spring and fall seasons and record the armies with a circle of the appropriate color and the fleets with a line. For the winter season, instead of a separate map, you use the fall map and make square brackets around a unit built and round brackets around a unit removed. Lastly, retreats after the spring or fall season can be indicated by an arrow. Therefore, in the above way you can have a permanent record of the entire game and follow its analysis for a modest investment of 88¢, assuming the game lasts the average eleven game years.

From my own personal experience, I have found this system to be ideal in games you play in, too. Being an ex-postal chess player, I used to use the postal chess albums as put out by Chess Review. After mentioning this in an article of mine published in ScenDip #72, Brenton Ver Floeg suggested I use map tacks and board to adapt this to postal Diplomacy. However, due to the simultaneous moves, I have found the McCallum System works much better in postal Dippy, as you are less likely to misplace units.

Have at it, sports fans and follow the action!

If you want to be an article writer for DR, just let the Editor, John Boyer, know and he will discuss your contributions to the IDA.

## A DR REPRINT

THE ORGANIZED DIPLOMACY PLAYER  
by Len Lakofka (taken from Hoosier Archives, #63, March 18, 1972)

The most vexing thing that happens to a player is a missed move. Second to that is failure to communicate with an ally because of carelessness. This carelessness can be due to poor playing ability or to poor organization. I'd like to address myself to the latter topic.

Organization is a function of how meticulous you are and how much time and money you care to invest in keeping accurate records. Early organization is just keeping all correspondence from each game separate in a large envelope, along with the game record itself. From that point, you can branch out all over.

Phase one is the organization of the game adjudications. All of the game records should be removed from the magazine and placed in a file for that game. If you are at home with a particular notation, then copy the moves from the zine and keep the game record in that form. You can, using 7 different colored pencils, transcribe the moves or final positions to maps--if these can be obtained and/or afforded. Here are a few ways of keeping track of the game that are quite good.

Get a columnar pad with at least 34 horizontal lines and about 20 columns. Label the columns S'01, F'01, W'01. Use 7 different colored pencils to list the final positions of each piece at the end of the move (retreats are noted in the next column in small print). Now, by placing the position of the piece in the next season's column, you can also trace the piece's movements. Growth and decline of each country can be seen as a 7-part, single-line graph as more (or less) spaces are used for each country.

Another method is to obtain a cork board, or large piece of cardboard, that can be moved and stored or hung in one place. Now, colored pieces of paper can represent pieces on individual maps or the orders can be tacked up next to one conference map. Thus, as the new adjudication arrives, you place the new position of the piece on the columnar pad, a map, or just replace the new moves with the old.

Phase two is organization of dated material. First of all, we have the deadlines for the games. These can be listed on (1) a large calendar, (2) a date pad (list the deadline FIVE days before the actual date of deadline, (3) use a note on a columnar pad for the

particular game. This latter method will be elaborated on in a few minutes.

Other dated material involves correspondence. When you mail a note and expect a response (or require a response) by a certain date, be sure to note this on a columnar pad or on a date pad. Be sure to allow adequate time for the movement of the mails!

The actual submission of orders, using a receipt method (stamped self-addressed card or envelope or a postal receipt.) is also dated material. If the receipt does not come back in time, zip off another set of orders. Also, the receipt method can be used to have an exact duplicate of the orders sent to the GM with his signature on it. This can be useful if there is a GM error.

Phase three is organization of the correspondence. Part one of this system is to keep up-to-date files of all addresses and phone numbers. This is best done in one of two ways: (1) keep a separate list of each game roster on a single sheet of paper in the game file or (2) go to a store that sells philatelic supplies and get a stamp ledger that holds individual stamps in creases in the pages. Now place each player's address on a blank business size card (available in all stationery stores for about 100/35¢) and place them on one page for each game. Address/player changes are made just by replacing the cards.

Part two of this phase is keeping track of the diplomatic notes. The best method is to keep a file on each player in a master file for the game. Blank file folders are only 3-4¢ each, and standing file racks are only a few dollars. Obtain a date stamp and date every piece of correspondence on the day it arrives--do not go by dates on the page--they are often wrong. Use colored paper, placed upright in a file, to signal a letter(s) you have yet to answer. Place all agreements and treaties, along with a note on duration, in a separate file folder in the set. In this way, you will always know what was and was not answered at the end of the week.

The columnar pad can solve a lot of problems. Head the columns: Game, Game #, GM, Player (for separate correspondence), Deadline, Deadline Extension, Season, Receipt Mailed On, Receipt Returned, Correspondence Sent On, Reply Received On, Sealed Orders Filed, Sealed Orders Updated, etc. Thus, with one or two pages per game, you have complete and accurate records. Keeping the sheets in one binder puts all of your games at your fingertips!

(cont. next page)

As for myself, I use the Tower of Babylon system. This means--throw all your letters, bills, advertisements and mash notes in a large pile until it falls over. Place all loose pieces of mail in any envelope handy, shuffle and answer the first 10. It is a wonderful system!

### THE IDA MEMBERSHIP LIST

Included with this issue of the Diplomacy Review is a copy of the complete IDA membership list, accurate through July 10. The word "accurate" is used loosely here, since mistakes are no doubt to be found throughout. This list was taken first from the membership applications, most of which were sent to Larry Peery. Larry transferred the information from the applications to his draft of the membership list, which he then mailed to the Vice President/Treasurer. Walt Buchanan updated the list, and then mailed it on to me. I completed the process by publishing the list and giving the copies to John Boyer at the DiploCon for distribution to the membership.

Somewhere in this process, mistakes were made. Already, I know of several. Mr. Nozik is Steven, not Stephen. Mr. Fish is James, not Mames. And no. 35 on the list should be John Hendry, not John Henry. If you find others, please report them to me in order that the next publication of the list will be 100% accurate. --Stephen Bell, MS IDA

### IDA MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW LARGER!

Since the printing of the membership list by the Membership Secretary, Stephen Bell, the IDA has added eight more new members for a total of 105 members. Actually, when you consider the fact that Allan Calhamer was made an honorary member (with Mr. Moot's membership changed to honorary membership) we have 106 members. Below, you will find the names and addresses of the nine new members of the IDA:

98. Myjak, Tony. 1612 S. 7th, Maywood, IL 60153
99. Horton, Don. 16 Jordan Ct., Sacramento, CA 95826
100. Jarvis, Bill. 144 Dover Park, Rochester, NY 14610
101. Scheinberg, Marc. 5832 Lenox Rd., Bethesda, MD 20034
102. Schill II, William. 14101 121 Avenue NE, Kirkland, WA 98033
103. Scott, David. 9543 Poole St., La Jolla, CA 90037.

104. Harburn, Dave. Box 96, RR 2, Pickering, Ontario, CANADA
105. Hilliker, Charles. 3312 Stoneycrest, Bloomington, IN 47401
106. Calhamer, Allan. 501 N. Stone, La Grange Park, IL 60525

### KNOW YOUR REGIONAL SECRETARY

Regional Secretaries were created in order to represent regions of the world as well as to help facilitate membership communication with IDA officers. If you are a member not on any committee nor an officer, please write to your Regional Secretary and establish your contact with the IDA. If you are having problems, or have ideas you want to be made known to the Council, writing to your Regional Secretary is your best bet for action. It is his job to handle communication from his region, so do write to him, and don't write to the other officers who have other jobs to do. If you must, you can go straight to the top by writing to the President. However, outside of informing the Membership Secretary of errors in the mailing list, or of changes in your addresses, and outside of writing your Vice-President/Treasurer for the minutes or for dues, you can get action directly by writing to your important Regional Secretary. He represents your voice on the Council, and he is your contact with the IDA--make use of him!

Following right below you will find the names and addresses of your Regional Secretaries, and the description of their regions:

Atlantic Regional Secretary (the states of Florida, South and North Carolina, both Virginias, Pennsylvania, and all other states located east of these states.)--Steven Nozik, 356 Kimberly Dr., Rochester, NY 14610

Central Regional Secretary (all states located between the Atlantic and Pacific Regions)--Lenard Lakofka, 4970 N. Marine Dr., Apt. 525, Chicago, IL 60640

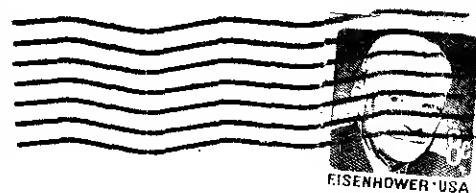
Pacific Regional Secretary (Washington, Oregon, California and all states west of these)--John Biehl, 4002 W 32, Vancouver 8, B.C., CANADA

Canadian Regional Secretary (currently is Mark Weidmark, but election is being held for this office)--Mark Weidmark, 528 Park Crescent, Pickering, Ontario, CANADA

Overseas Regional Secretary (the rest of the world)--Michel Feron, Grand Place 7, B-4280 Hamut, Belgium

In addition to these we have 2 At Large Secretaries: Rod Walker and Elliot Lipson whose addresses are in the mailing list.

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